

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2025

PROJECT UPDATE



Transforming Bunbury's Waterfront



Main Photo: Axel Grossman from the DDC using a drone for environmental monitoring. **Insert Photo:** Mum Murrahsbuddy and calf Metuka named by the Marine Fauna Observer who discovered them first. Photos courtesy of Dolphin Discovery Centre.

Dolphin Discovery Centre Environmental Monitoring

The Dolphin Discovery Centre (DDC) have been engaged by the joint venture WA Limestone Contracting and Italia Stone Group to monitor dolphin activity in proximity to the northern breakwater works.

Throughout construction the DDC has been advising operators when dolphins are close, to ensure impacts on the local population are minimised. The monitoring is by sight as well as drone imagery.

The monitoring for marine fauna is a key part of the environmental management plans for the project and a great opportunity to collect data of dolphins in the bay.

A new calf (Metuka) was born inside the Casuarina Boat Harbour during construction. The mum, Murrahsbuddy, chose the location to give birth and hung around the construction site for most of the day.

This valuable monitoring work is a great local content outcome, and we say thank you to all involved especially the DDC for their work on the project.

A State Government project



Government of Western Australia
Department of Transport



Stage 3 Works Update



Top: The full length of the northern breakwater is due to be reached in April. Photo courtesy of Tenmex Industrial.

Bottom Left and Right: First look renders of the accessible fishing platform to be built on the new northern breakwater in Casuarina Boat Harbour.

Northern Breakwater

Construction of the new 460-metre-long northern breakwater at Casuarina Boat Harbour (CBH) continues with more than 360,000 tonnes of rock being transported to site from quarries at Roelands, Byford, Shenton Ridge and Jarrahdale. 22,000 tonnes of armour rock and 208,000 tonnes of core rock have been placed so far. The two groynes have now been joined, and the reclamation fill is in place, creating the triangle of new land which will be the boat lifting and servicing lease sites. The breakwater is due for completion towards the end of 2025.

A reminder yellow 'special marks' have been deployed around the work front at the breakwater head, vessels are required to navigate around the outside (to the east) of these markers and keep clear of the works. Red and green port and starboard marks have also been deployed, marking the new navigation channel for Casuarina Boat Harbour.

For further safety information for skippers visit:

<https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/.../south-west-notice.asp>.

The work is underway by joint venture WA Limestone Contracting and Italia Stone Group to deliver the largest coastal infrastructure contract (\$69.2 million) ever awarded by DoT in WA.

Fishing Platform

Fantastic News! We've completed the first look visuals of the planned universal access fishing platform on the new northern breakwater at CBH. The platform will be located on the northern side about one third along the 460-metre breakwater, currently under construction. The platform will include 10 wheelchair bays, seating, sun and wind shelters and lighting for evening fishing.

An elevated gangway will link the platform to the adjacent landscaped precinct to be developed on the breakwater. The precinct will include universal access toilets and a changing facility for people with disability, superlong universal access parking for maxi-taxis with rear wheelchair loading ramps, bus parking and areas for recreation.

While the design of the landscaped precinct is continuing, detailed planning for the platform has commenced. It's envisaged the platform and adjacent precinct will be ready for use in 2027.

Thanks to all the organisations and individuals who have worked with the TBW team to ensure the design of the platform meets the requirements of all users- Recfishwest, Fishability, City of Bunbury and Southern Ports.



Anchor Find

What an amazing find, when workers discovered a large, old anchor at the work front of the Northern Breakwater in January. The WA Museum (WAM) were consulted and visited site to help to determine the possible heritage value. While the mooring anchor lost in the 60's or 70's does have historical (and aesthetic) value, it is not required to be in a museum. Taking advice from the WAM on preservation the DoT will display the anchor somewhere in the completed precinct in the harbour.



The mooring anchor will be displayed in the completed Casuarina Boat Harbour precinct.

Works commencing soon

The City of Bunbury, supported by the Department of Transport, were recently awarded a grant through the Disaster Ready Fund to upgrade the rock protection structures of the storm surge barrier (in The Plug). Refurbishing the rock walls will stabilise the banks of The Plug and ensure the storm surge barrier remains effective. The work means Bunbury is better prepared for and protected from future natural disasters.

The dilapidated groyne at the west end of the Koombana foreshore will be refurbished as part of the TBW project. The refurbishment works will reinstate safe public access along the structure and ensure it remains effective in stabilising Koombana Bay beach and preventing sand from infilling the channel at The Plug.

Both projects are scheduled over winter for minimal disruption to the community.

The works program will deliver many long-term benefits for users and the wider community and while every effort is being made to limit the disruption, we ask people for their understanding while the vision for the harbour is made a reality.

Harbour manager and delivery agency, the Department of Transport (DoT), is working closely with lead agency the South West Development Commission for the \$78.1 million 3.1 Stage of Transforming Bunbury's Waterfront.

For works updates visit our Facebook page or website Transforming Bunbury's Waterfront - South West Development Commission ([swdc.wa.gov.au](https://www.swdc.wa.gov.au))



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Bunbury Aquatic Use Review (AUR) Completed

Thank you to everyone who submitted comments and feedback for the Bunbury AUR during November and December 2024.

The Department of Transport (DoT) undertakes regular AURs throughout WA to ensure the safe, equitable and sustainable use of the State's waterways.

The Bunbury review had a focus on the waters of Koombana Bay to ensure safety on the water is maintained once the new northern breakwater at Casuarina Boat Harbour (CBH) is delivered. The breakwater is a key deliverable of Stage 3 of the Transforming Bunbury's Waterfront project.

The changes announced on 21 February 2025 included:

- a reduction in the area for water-skiing at Koombana Bay, to accommodate the CBH expansion
- revised speed restricted areas

- and increased motorised vessel prohibited areas at Koombana Beach and the CBH.

Improved navigational aid infrastructure will also be implemented to provide for the safe access of all vessels utilising the CBH redevelopment.

The changes follow extensive consultation with state and local government authorities and the general public through online surveys. These changes have been adopted in full after careful consideration of the feedback received, with majority support for the proposals.

For more information visit: <https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/inline/aquatic-use-review.asp>



TBW Stage 2B Casuarina Drive REDEVELOPMENT



One of the completed dune fences with Owners Jessica and Brendan Franklin Wilgee Civil, Nathan Project Manager Wilgee Civil and Zoe Langridge Local Content Advisor South West Development Commission.

Dune fencing around the majority of the dunes at BP Beach and along Casuarina Drive, which is designed to protect the dunes and reduce sand drift onto the pathways, is now complete. A big thanks to local company Wilgee Civil, an Aboriginal-owned business located in Davenport.

The 300m of retaining walls works on Casuarina Drive has also been completed. The works comprising approx. 15,000 limestone blocks was carried out by Southwest contractor Leeuwin Civil.

Davenport based LD Total as the preferred contractor will continue works on the hard and soft landscaping behind these walls. The works include the planting of trees and shrubs, paths connecting to the Stage 3 area, stairs and provision of access to the beach.

Andrew Frazer Designs' artwork (in collaboration with Jake Coghlan & Peter Jago) is well underway for the

sculptural work that will book-end Jetty Baths Park. These artworks will encourage people to venture between each end of the precinct and will pay tribute to the ancient basalt landscape while also taking inspiration from Bunbury's iconic lighthouse and its unique history.

Work will continue until late 2025 with safety fencing and signage in place for the safety of workers and the public. We thank everyone for their patience until these works are completed.

The Casuarina Drive Redevelopment is a project managed by DevelopmentWA.




COMMUNITY DROP-IN INFORMATION STALL

Thursday **8 May** 10am – 7pm • Friday **9 May** 10am – 4pm

**Bunbury Centrepont Shopping
Centre, opposite Coles**

**The TBW team will be there to discuss project updates,
current and future works and timelines, gain your feedback
on concept's for future stages and answer your questions.**






www.swdc.wa.gov.au/waterfront
or email: tbw@swdc.wa.gov.au



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Government of Western Australia
Department of Transport



DevelopmentWA

